as required by Clause (5) of Article 320 of the Constitution of India.

Elections of Presidents and vice Presidents of Bangalore North and South Taluks

ಶ್ರೀ ಎಂ. ವಿ. ರಾಜಶೇಖರನ್.—ಸ್ವಾಮಿ, ಗ್ರಾಮ ಪಂಚಾಯಿತಿ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು ಮತ್ತು ಉಪಾಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರ ಚುನಾವಣೆ ನಡೆದು ಒಂದು ತಿಂಗಳ ಮೇಲಾಯಿತು. ಆದರೆ ಇದುವರೆಗೂ ಗ್ರಾಮಪಂಚಾಯಿತಿ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು ಮತ್ತು ಉಪಾಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರ

ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು.—ತಾವು ನಮಗೆ ವಿಷಯವನ್ನೇ ತಿಳಿಸದೆ ಇದ್ದಕ್ಕಿದ್ದಂತೆ ಇಲ್ಲಿ ಬಂದು ಏನಾದರು ವಿಷಯವನ್ನು ಪ್ರಾರಂಭ ಮಾಡಿದರೆ ಹೇಗೆ ?

ಶ್ರೀ ಎಂ. ವಿ. ರಾಜಶೇಖರನ್.—ಇವತ್ತು ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ ಈ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ನೋಟೀಸನ್ನು ತಮ್ಮ ಕಡೆಗೆ ಕಳುಹಿಸಿದ್ದೇನೆ.

ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು.—ತಮ್ಮ ಪತ್ರವನ್ನು ಸರ್ಕಾರಕ್ಕೆ ಕಳುಹಿಸಿದ್ದೇನೆ, ಅಲ್ಲಿಂದ ಉತ್ತರ ಬಂದಕೂಡಲೆ ತಮಗೆ ತಿಳಿಸುತ್ತೇನೆ,

ಶ್ರೀ ಎಂ. ವಿ. ರಾಜಶೇಖರನ್.—ನಾಳೆ, ನಾಡಿದ್ದರಲ್ಲಿ ತಿಳಿಸುತ್ತೀರಾ ?

SRI D. DEVARAJ URS.—Sir my appeal to the Chair is this, the members have to give notice in respect of any matter that has to be brought before this House, according to the Rules and also there are matters on which the Speaker has to give his consent. Every Member simply sends some notice. They may think it is important, but unfortunately, it looks as if by raising this issue, they somehow want to extract a promise from the Speaker that it should be brought here on such and such a date. It is rather incorrect.

ಶ್ರೀ ಎಂ. ವಿ.ರಾಜಶೇಖರನ್.—ಅಲ್ಲಾ ಸ್ವಾಮಿ, ಪಂಚಾಯಿತಿ ಚುನಾವಣೆ ನಡೆದು ಒಂದು ತಿಂಗಳ ಮೇಲಾಯಿತು

MR. SPEAKER.—The hon. member may please resume his seat. I am not allowing it.

Calling Attention to Matters of Urgent Public Importance.

(i) re:—alleged misappropration of money by officials of II Circle of C.T D. Bellary.

SRI GOVIND P. VADEYARJ (Kamalapur).— I call the attention of the Minister for Finance to the alleged misappropriation of Government money by the officials of II Circle of Commercial Taxes Department Bellary.

SRI S.M. YAHYA (Minister for Finance) I wish to make the following statement:—

During the course of a routine inspection by the Deputy Commissioner of Commercial Taxes, Gulbarga Division, Bellary couducted in January 78 in the Office of the Commercial Tax Officer, Second Circle.

Bellary, the Deputy Commissioner of Commercial Taxes observed certain irregularities in the postings made in the demand registers. As the Deputy Commissioner of Commercial Taxes found that three officials of the Circle Office were involved in the wrong postings and defalcation of accounts, he recommended to the Commissioner of Commercial Taxes and obtained orders to place the following officials under suspension with effect from 1st March 1978.

1. Sri I. Krishna Murthy,
   First Division Clerk.
2. Sri Prem Mohan Raj,
   Second Division Clerk.

2. Independent of this, the staff of the local audit of Accountant Gener l's Office who conducted audit of accounts of Commercial Tax Officer's Office, Second Circle, Bellary in January 1978 also noticed the occurrence of certain irregularities and based on their report the Accountant General also made a reference to the Commissioner of Commercial Taxes. On receipt of the reports from the Deputy Commissioner of Commercial Taxes, Bellary on the one hand and that of the Accountant General on the other, the Commissioner of Commercial Taxes sent a special squad to Bellary to take up detailed investigation into irregularities of the Commercial Tax Officer's Office, Second Circle, Bellary pertaining to the accounts for the years 1974-75, 75-76 and 76-77. The investigation revealed that amounts relating to these three years to the extent of Rs. 1.25 lakhs were not properly maintained. The Commissioner of Commercial Taxes, therefore, sent recommendations to Government to conduct a joint enquiry into irregularities noticed in this Second Circle Commercial Tax Officer's Office, Bellary. Accordingly Government have issued orders to conduct joint enquiry under rule 13 of the Classification, Control and Appeal Rules. Government will see that the enquiry is completed early and that the persons found guilty are seriously dealt with.

3 The Department has issued several circular instructions regarding the maintenance of the initial accounts and registers in the Office of the Commercial Tax Officers and reiterating the provisions of the Karnataka Financial Code, Sales Tax Mannual etc. to avoid recurrence of such instances in other offices.

4. The State Vigilance Commission also are reported to have taken up investigation into the irregularities noticed in the Commercial Tax Office, Second Circle, Bellary.

SRI GOVIND P. VADEYARAJ.— The Government have said that the State Vigilance Commissioner is reported to have taken up this matter. Why reported to have taken up? You should have straight-away referred the matter to the State Vigilance Commission. You have not done so. Are you going to do it immediately?

SRI S. M. YAHYA.—Infact, recently they have taken up this matter.

SRI GOVIND P. VADEYARAJ.—This has been a recurring feature of the Commercial Taxes Department. However much the Gevernment may try to do its best, but it is somehow happening. This should be stopped immediately. Some fool-proof method have got to be evolved. I would like to know from the Government what fool-proof methods are they goving to device to see that such instances don't occur in future?

SRI S. M. YAHYA.—The Government's intention is also to see that the Government money should not be defalcated or misused. As far as keeping of accounts are concerned, we have again on last month sent a Circular regarding how to keep the accounts etc., Then, there is a special squad. We will strengthen it. Actually, we would like to provide few more vehicles so that they can go on inspecting and see that this kind of defalcation should not be there.

SRI K. BHASKER NAIDU.—What is the amount involved in it and when this has happened? Is there any backlog?

SRI S. M. YAHYA.—Rs. 1.25 lakhs as found by the Special Squad.

(ii) re:- Collection of market cess/fees for Sale of Potatoes in Hassan District.

SRI K. H. HANUME GOWDA (Hassan).—I call the attention of the Minister of State for Regulated Markets to the hardship caused to the farmers of Hassan District due to the collection of market cess/fee on sale of potatoes at different points.

SRI A.B. JAKANUR (Minister of State for Regulated Markets).— I wish to make the following Statement.—

Potato is one of the notified agricultural produce in the market area of the Agricultural Produce Market Committee, Hassan. Section 65 of the Karnataka Agricultural Produce Marketing (Regulation) Act, 1966 empowers the Market Committee to levy and collect market fee from sellers as well as buyers in respect of notified agricultural produce sold and bought in the market area of the Agricultural Produce Market Committee, Hassan at the rate of one rupee percent of of the produce sold from buyers and sellers.